



**CITY OF BURLINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH**

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BOARD OF HEALTH

Ian C. Galbraith, Chair • Fernand C. Crete • Alan R. Sousie • Mary D. Hart • James Vos

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HEALTH OFFICER

Eugene Bergman

**BURLINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH
645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Monday, July 13, 2009**

*Attending: Ian Galbraith, Chair; Fernand C. Crete, Alan R. Sousie, Mary D. Hart, James Vos,
Gene Bergman, Deborah Dalton, Linda Ayer, Sandy St. Louis, Christine Charron, Sid Decell, Donna Viau Don Viau*

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Galbraith at 5:40 PM.

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action
I. Approval of Agenda	Revised order of business: 8a. Report on Interval Pig Farm situation and installation of predatory bird sound system switched to position #3 Public Forum on agenda.	Accepted
II. Approval of minutes of previous meetings :		
May 27 (Regular).		Accepted
June 5 (Special)		Accepted
June 10 (Regular)	Were Hookah rule documents submitted? This revised posting should be implemented this summer.	CE staff let Ian know of changes.

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III. Public Forum		
(8a) Report on Interval Pig Farm situation and installation of predatory bird sound system	<p>Refer to memo from Ita Meno:</p> <p>Farmer is attempting to follow best practices. There has been a decline in complaint calls. There is a no cost arrangement w/ Recycle North/Youth to string lines across the rooftops of homes granting permission.</p> <p>Alan made 4 site visits (different days and different times) to assess effectiveness of installation of sound system. Farmer has moved pigs further from the neighborhoods. All food is covered. No gulls seen in neighborhoods.</p> <p>Gene suggested that enough time be allocated to test the sound equipment (until fall). However, if the gulls return, the farmer vs. tax payer pays for the equipment. (~\$600.00).</p> <p>Jay suggests that Mr. Betit receive communication from the board as to his financial responsibility if the gulls return.</p> <p>Fern raised concerns about the effect on other birds nesting in the area and it was explained that the bird calls on sound system are specific to deterring gulls.</p> <p>Citizens expressed concerns about health issues of flocks of gulls at school playgrounds. Abundance of rain creates food source in high moisture areas.</p> <p>Alan suggested that consideration be given to</p>	<p>Moved and approved: Staff to communicate with Mr. Betit that we will be shutting down sound system in the fall, and that he will be responsible for purchasing a system if flocking of gulls reoccurs.</p> <p>Moved and approved: Mr. Betit to discourage feeding and post a sign.</p> <p>Mary to contact Front Porch Forum & North</p>

	<p>investing in similar equipment for use in other areas of the city. He supports making a recommendation to the City to provide a budget for such.</p> <p>Citizens observe residents (children and adults) in area taking bags and barrels of garbage down to the pig farm.</p> <p>Message should come from neighbors rather than government that feeding the pigs is not permitted. Also, identify people (anonymously) and Code Enforcement can pay a visit to encourage people to compost appropriately. Can farmer put up sign to discourage this practice?</p>	<p>Avenue News and Jay will contact Neighborhood Volunteer Program to disseminate information about eliminating this practice.</p> <p>Residents to contact Deb Dalton if they see children /others feeding pigs.</p>
IV. Consideration of Pesticide Application Requests:		
a. McNeil Generating Station (Burlington Electric Department)	<p>No representative: VELCO controversy re: pesticides may have raised McNeil's awareness of problems. Delegation to visit site? Can weeds be mechanically removed? Look at ways to reduce the amount of the application. Consider matting this area to prevent growth?</p> <p>In the past, Code Enforcement and Health Officer made decisions to allow application.</p> <p>A decision can be made before August 24th (24 hour notice for an emergency meeting). Postpone approval until a next meeting.</p>	<p>Motion passed to table decision until the visit to the site and meeting with the manager occurs. The matter will then be brought back to the board for a vote.</p> <p>Fern and Mary will visit site 7/14/09.</p>
b. Flynn Avenue (Global Companies)	<p>Site Manager Sid Decell was present.</p> <p>Global Companies owns terminal for gas and oil storage for disbursing fuel oil to region.</p>	

	<p>Same application as last year and will cover entire 7 acres despite delayed date of application.</p> <p>Use of chemical is necessary because no motorized vehicles are allowed near tanks so weeds cannot be mowed. This is a necessary fire prevention measure to keep down weeds.</p> <p>Mary raised question as to whether long term planning for non-pesticide weed control has been considered by the company. What other alternatives have been examined? Could a mat be placed on acreage? Could a plan be developed by Global A to m at a section at a time over a period of 3 years?</p> <p>Board recommendation: Global Companies to examine least expensive means of “matting” the area to physically suffocate the weeds. Sid Decell said he would make the suggestion to the owners. It is the Board of Health’s intent to eliminate ALL chemical use in City of Burlington. Alan stated that the board will not approve this application next year without a plan in place.</p>	<p>Motion to remove vegetation (fire prevention) and accept the proposal as written: Passed 3 to 2</p>
5. Report: BOH Pesticide Ordinance Public Information Task Force	<p>August 19th meeting is at DPW. Guidelines established, goals reviewed, brainstorming about intentions, recruiting more people. Currently 5 individuals are committed. Jean Marky-Duncan, Bob Duncan, Mary Cherrie, Sid Bosworth, Maurie couldn’t come, but wants to keep informed. Sid Bosworth’s attendance may be sporadic, but has grad students who could conduct studies and do other leg work.</p>	

	<p>Need to establish how to determine who is using chemicals, and who knows that they are within 500 yard zone. Positive message v. negative by utilizing all media and making it unique to Burlington.</p> <p>“The Task Force has no Power. It is a Creature of the Board of Health.”</p>	<p>Public postings of meetings. Add an agenda item for public comments.</p>
6. Discussion: Board of Health interaction with media	<p>Prompted by Shay Totten’s 7Days e-mail about the status of Fluoride Resolution. Protocol for media: Ian as chair would be designated as spokesperson for the Board. Otherwise, Ian thought people could come to the board meetings and get all sides of an issue. Spokesperson to give factual response. Chairman as point person (but other board members can speak to issues, being careful not to speak against a particular position that the board has taken) Because of the range of attitudes or split votes it would be best if media reps came to meetings where Board members have the opportunity to speak their reasons for their decisions. Gene: The board only acts as a body. Actions of the body should be expressed. Individual members must be politically astute. The goal is to maintain a good working board.</p>	<p>Alan recommends that, Ian as the chair, contacts City Council committee chairs to see where each of the BOH decisions are in the process. Ed Adrian – Health and Safety Paul Decell – Ordinance Committee</p>
7. Chairman’s Report		
a.Update: Acquisition of a copy of Burlington’s Emergency Preparedness Plan A	<p>Alan states that his document is “educational”. He will review Gene’s 10 page report. City plans to use only that which comes from the State or Feds.</p> <p>What is the BOH role in this? Public Service Announcements to include TV and radio. The BOH</p>	<p>: Meld the two documents.</p> <p>Put a plan into place so that there are consistent</p>

	will only be a voice w/ no power. Look at volunteer networking to support implementation of any procedures.	messages from BOH, VT Dept Health, CDC, and City of Burlington.
b.Discussion/Update: Does the BOH have a responsibility in finding a solution for a long-term sewer system problem in North Burlington?	NO: Nobody has come forward w/ a health problem; why isn't anything being done? Standing water in Burlington is an issue (mosquito issues). Especially bad at 22? or 18? Billings Court - Arnie Sherman's house.	Ian to follow up w/ research to find out where this falls in the plan and get a time line for the split in the sewer system. This needs to be addressed by the Board w/ Steve Goodkind. Ian to follow up.
c.Update: City Attorney's review of Oregon correspondence	Oregon letter is not forgotten but Board is in transition and the legal interpretation of this document will be addressed by City Attorney, Ken Schatz. Is this legal basis for decision making?	
d.Update: Board's Resolution for Preventive Discontinuation of Fluoridation		Ian to call Bill Keogh to find out who the committee chair is and talk with him.
e. Update: VELCO Herbicide and Pesticide Applications in City Limits	VELCO – Charlie Ouelette (has to do with East Ave. Cedar Glen was approved. VELCO applying for an award as an environmental steward. Sylvia Knight – wants to know about herbicide use in and around residential areas... Reference her letter. Is substation housed near a 500 foot boundary (near East Ave)? What about the Centennial woods area? Does Gene have this information? No indication that VELCO received BOH permission.	Ian to follow up w/ Charlie Ouelette or get an answer from Gene. Ian to talk to Gene re: Sylvia Knight – e-mail, April 14, 2009.
8. Staff Report	Moved to #3 Public Forum	
9. Next Board Meeting	Next Board Meeting is August 12 th Wed. City Hall.	Linda to reserve room; send

		dates and locations of future meetings to BOH.
10. Other		<p>Sept 10th Main St. Landing Theatre: 9:30 – 5:00. Mary and Fern attending.</p> <p>Mary to check if mentees will be attending.</p> <p>Linda to send fees for registration.</p>

Meeting Adjourned 7:45 PM